

Minutes
Delaware Council of Faith-Based Partnerships Meeting
Wednesday, May 18th, 2016
12pm-3:30pm
Wilmington University
320 N Dupont Hwy
New Castle, DE 19720
United States

Attendees: Doug Gerdts, Pramod Mathur, Jennifer Hill, Max Wolf, Michael Beals, Kenneth Foster, Jeanne Cashman, Flora McConkie, Steven Boone.

Guests: Usman Sandhu

Doug called the event to order at approx. 12pm noon.

March minutes approved.

Today's Interfaith Dialogue Event: Approx. 41 attendees on sign-in sheet but more were observed at time of full attendance. Actual attendee turnout was lower than registered attendees but still good overall. Event approach seemed well received. Attendees seemed pleased with food spread. Event began without issue promptly at 12pm noon with brief introduction of Council and greeting. Dialogue commenced forty-five minutes later with introduction of Council members and previous council member speaking on the dialogue panel. Attendees seemed happy and engaged with presentation while being very responsive to humor. Only three questions collected from audience, more would have been desirable. Lack of questions presented caused event to wrap up twenty minutes early ahead of schedule. Remarks and thanks were given to governor Markell's creation of the Council. Overall general satisfaction was received with event.

U.S. Attorney Meeting: Charles Oberly spoke to the Council following wrap up of event at 2:50pm. Discussed a variety of issues facing state currently. Noted that the U.S. Attorney does work with re-entry now. He noted there is a consciousness of disconnect between youth and culture between persons in positions of power and arrested peoples. Noted consciousness of failed war on drugs. Discussed evolution of crime on the internet and the internet's effects on law enforcement. Noted he would like to promote more education about electronic privacy and the dangerousness of the internet. Expressed desire to reach out to other organizations that benefit the community in order to assist with bringing in the desired change. Made clarifications on duties and powers of the State Attorney vs. U.S. Attorney.

Council Debriefing Following Event: Council discussed the timing for the questions could have differed a bit more than allowed, but there was satisfaction with giving consecutive timed answers. Members expressed satisfaction over engagement of audience. Agreement on good amount of time allotted for lunch. Future idea for reference was suggested to place a council member at each table for strategic placement if there are enough council members to go around, but overall strategic placement of council members at tables would be beneficial. Additional reference for future would be to let audience members stretch their legs. Extending invitation to invite John Carney to future Council events/meetings is floated as a favorable idea. Decision to stick to generic food spreads instead of cultural foods for Council events agreed upon. Idea for creating pre-made questions to answer when taking questions in future dialogues was presented. Idea of taking it on the road has been floated. Suggestion for placement of future events to be closer to other areas/counties to reach and be more convenient to future audiences. Agreement on reworking third question presented to panel members that asks: “what does your religion say about social and religious acceptance?”.

New Intern: A new intern fulfilling the Council secretary position should be introduced by Fall, details will emerge when a new candidate is selected and interviewed later in the summer months. Steve will help with transitioning in new intern into the position as well.

Next Meeting: Will be held on Tuesday June 7th at Sister Jeanne Cashman’s place from 12pm to 2pm. Directions are located in email send out.

Meeting between Council adjourned at approx. 3:33pm

Submitted by Steven Boone, Interning Secretary, May 30th, 2016.